

Igor Ferst

TECHNICAL LEADERSHIP · SOFTWARE ENGINEERING · MACHINE LEARNING

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Summary

Technical leader skilled in all parts of software design and development, from gathering requirements to architecting, implementing and shipping a scalable production system.

Track record of high-impact roles at growth-stage software companies, building new products with cutting-edge technologies as well as growing and leading a cross-functional product team.

Deep and diverse skill set spanning full-stack development, engineering management, product management, machine learning.

Domain expertise in healthcare, capital markets, and insurance.

Work Experience

Root Insurance

Columbus, OH

SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Sept. 2018 - present

- Using machine learning to improve the accuracy of Root's auto insurance rates.
- Refined interview process for software engineering and data science teams; onboarded new engineers.

Rational Form, Ltd.

Columbus, OH

OWNER

Apr. 2016 - present

- Designed and built SPA for a consumer product safety and performance testing tool.
- Gathered requirements through site visits and end-user interviews.
- Assisted client's in-house development team with design of product back-end and APIs.
- Communicated progress weekly to client stakeholders and managed billing and operations.

Aver Inc.

Columbus, OH

LEAD SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Sept. 2014 - Feb. 2018

- Led the cross-functional team that built Aver's Virtual Payer, a care management and revenue cycle management product for surgical centers. My team took this product from idea to production application with paying customers. As team lead I owned the product design and technical architecture, maintained the roadmap, and implemented APIs and features across the stack.
- Architected a microservice-based platform as part of a core team of three lead engineers, implemented core features, and trained engineers on the new platform.
- Grew developer team from 4 to 13: overhauled interview process to emphasize rigor and consistency, defined onboarding process and personally onboarded most new developers. Coached two direct reports through promotion to senior engineer.
- Introduced and trained engineering team on new technologies (Docker, Angular), development processes (TDD, code reviews, release process) and agile methodology (user stories, estimation).

InSample Inc.

San Francisco, CA

SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Mar. 2014 - Sept. 2014

- First employee at healthcare analytics startup building a web-based tool for data exploration and statistical de-biasing of clinical experiments; designed and built the product prototype together with the CTO.
- Prepared fundraising materials and interviewed prospective customers.

Google Inc.

Mountain View, CA

SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Feb. 2013 - Mar. 2014

- Implemented a novel conversion tracking visualization (patent pending) for the AdWords suite of analytics tools.
- Researched and recommended enhancements to Markov chain machine learning algorithm for ad attribution as a 20% project.

Palantir Technologies Inc.

Palo Alto, CA

FORWARD-DEPLOYED ENGINEER

Jan. 2011 - Jan. 2013

- Embedded with one of Palantir's largest capital markets clients, a prominent global macro hedge fund; created research tools and content using Palantir's capital markets analytics platform and provided on-site training and support for users.
- Guided development of platform's visualization and reporting features; gathered requirements from multiple clients, wrote spec, tested features, maintained roadmap.
- Transitioned to engineering team; implemented platform's geovisualization tools.

Technology

Languages/Frameworks	Python, Ruby/Rails, Java, Javascript/Node.JS
Infrastructure	AWS, Docker, Ansible, SQL
Machine Learning	Random forests, vector-based NLP, Markov chains

Patents

- 2015 **Radial display generation and interactive system**, Google Inc. (pending)
- 2018 **Systems and methods for providing episode-based medical care**, Aver Inc. (pending)

Education

Cornell University

Ithaca, NY

M.S. IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

- PhD candidate in Applied Mathematics supported by a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship.
- Published original research on probabilistic optimization algorithms: <https://tinyurl.com/ycheu4us>

University of Waterloo

Waterloo, Ontario

M.MATH. IN COMBINATORICS & OPTIMIZATION

University of Chicago

Chicago, IL

B.S. IN MATHEMATICS WITH HONORS

Volunteering

Columbus Arts Festival

Columbus, OH

MEMBER OF ORGANIZING COMMITTEE; CHAIR OF TECHNOLOGY SUBCOMMITTEE

Jan. 2016 - Jul. 2017

- Created an interactive on-line map for 2016 festival: <https://github.com/igorferst/columbus-arts-festival-map>
- Interviewed vendors for mobile app development.

United Schools Network

Columbus, OH

VOLUNTEER INSTRUCTOR

Sep. 2015 - Nov. 2015

- Designed and taught a three month after-school programming course at a local charter middle-school.
- Developed spreadsheet-based operational tools for school administrators.